

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	USSR (Leningrad Oblast).	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Health Conditions and Medical Facilities in Leningrad	DATE DISTR.	1 December 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	5 50X1-HUM
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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STATE	X#	ARMY	X#	NAVY	X#	AIR	X#	FBI		AEC					

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

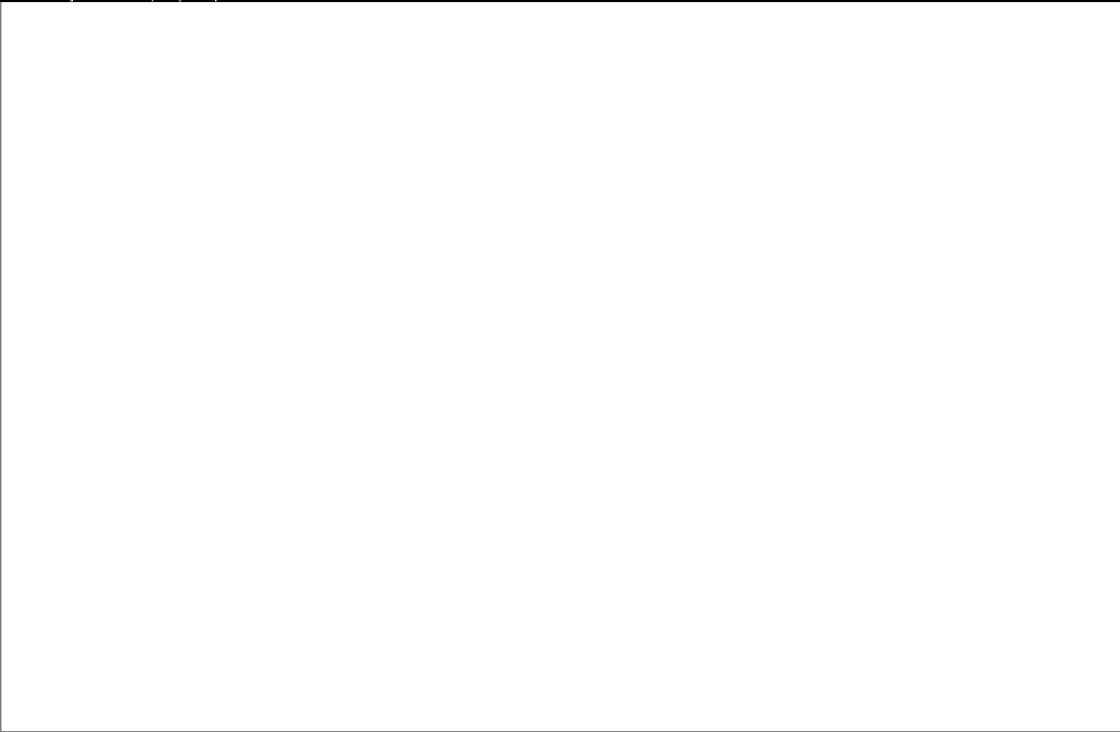
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REPORT [redacted]

COUNTRY : USSR (Leningrad Oblast) DATE DISTR. 22 OCT 53
SUBJECT : Health Conditions and Medical Facilities in Leningrad NO. OF PAGES 4
PLACE ACQUIRED : [redacted] NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)
DATE ACQUIRED [redacted] SUPPLEMENT TO 50X1-HUM
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DATE OF INFORMATION : [redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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WATER SUPPLY

2. Water was supplied this area from a central water system which serviced the entire city. [redacted] the city water was obtained in part from Lake Ladoga. [redacted] Leningrad which showed a water-purification plant purportedly located within the city, [redacted] 50X1-HUM
3. The water supplied was brownish in color and contained rust-like sediment. Although the water was highly chlorinated, public ordinance prescribed that the water be boiled before use. 50X1-HUM

DISPOSAL FACILITIES

4. The city had a modern sewage disposal system which serviced the entire

SECRET

S E C R E T

-2-

50X1-HUM

municipal area. [] the sewage was discharged into the canals that were located throughout the city, and which led to the Neva River. []

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FOOD AVAILABILITY

5. Food supplies in Leningrad were generally adequate following 1946. Food was sold in food stores and in open markets in the city. During the postwar years we Germans obtained bread rations at Institute 49, and then traded the bread for other food in the markets.
6. The Soviets usually ate one hot meal a day, and this was a one-course meal. It consisted of a cabbage or tomato soup, with potatoes. Considerable bread was eaten; tea was regularly drunk instead of coffee.
7. Tomatoes, cucumbers, and carrots, were eaten in season, but this period was very brief. Meats and fish of all kinds were always available. Meats, however, were expensive. The meat that was sold in the market bore an inspection stamp (indicating the approval of a veterinary inspector).
8. Unpasteurized milk was sold door-to-door by venders who owned cows. Bottled pasteurized milk was sold in the stores.
9. Fats of all kinds were sold at the market. Butter, margarine, pork fat, and sunflower oil were available. Sunflower oil was very inexpensive, and the Soviets preferred it to margarine.
10. The small food shops located throughout the city were very dirty, but the larger ones were generally quite clean. The larger stores were equipped with food refrigeration units. The handling of meat (after inspection) by the salespeople and the public was most unsanitary. The city authorities published a list of hygiene regulations for food stores which was posted on the wall of each shop. Customers had the privilege to complain about any unsanitary practices that were observed, but no serious attention was paid sanitation by the Soviets.

DISEASE INCIDENCE

50X1-HUM

11. Infectious diseases which were prevalent in Leningrad were tuberculosis, dysentery (which occurred annually), influenza, and children's diseases. Typhoid fever occurred very rarely. Venereal diseases did not appear to be a problem. A form of jaundice was fairly common, [] it was treated with penicillin and streptocid. 50X1-HUM
12. [] no animal diseases in the city, and [] no mention of anthrax, brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis or rabies. 50X1-HUM
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13. The population were infested with intestinal worms which were treated with santonin.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

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14. The city had many polyclinics. The one [] was No. 22, which was located on nearby Stalin prospekt []. This was a three-story building with about 25 rooms. This polyclinic had several branches. [] branch was located on the ground floor of a house [] on Kuznetsovskaya ulitsa. These installations were staffed with experts in the various fields of medicine. Treatment was administered free of charge. A laboratory in which blood and urine analyses were made was attached to this polyclinic. 50X1-HUM

S E C R E T

50X1-HUM

S E C R E T

-3-

50X1-HUM

15. Another polyclinic in Leningrad, known as the Maximilianovskaya clinic, furnished better treatment, and was better equipped. This clinic was located in the center of the city and was staffed by university doctors and professors. Arrangement for an interview was carried out privately and appointments were usually made in advance. A five ruble fee was charged at this polyclinic.
16. The hospital for the Moscow rayon was located opposite polyclinic No. 22 on Stalin prospekt. It was housed in a U-shaped building; a few sections of the hospital were located in several barracks. Approximately 250 beds were available in this hospital. The care here was poor, and the corridors were crowded with beds. All of the hospitals throughout Leningrad were similarly crowded.
17. Free dental care was furnished at the polyclinic. Payment had to be made for dental treatment at the university dental clinic. The dental drills at both clinics were usually poor, and the care administered was inferior when judged by Western standards. Steel was used to make false teeth.
18. Institute 49 was also equipped with a dispensary or "med-punkt." It was staffed by a female doctor and seven nurses, and occupied four rooms. Only minor ailments were treated here. Referrals were usually made to the patient's own district polyclinic rather than to the polyclinic in the district in which the institute was located.
19. No hospitals specifically designated to treat infectious diseases were located [redacted]. These cases were usually isolated in a section of the local hospital, or referred to a hospital on Old Neva prospekt located in the quarter of Leningrad south of the Moscow railroad station. 50X1-HUM
20. A maternity hospital was located in a two-story building [redacted] on Kuznetsovskaya ulitsa. This hospital had been opened in 1950. It had 150 beds; there were always a great number of patients at this hospital. The staff included a university professor and his students. The German women were sent to this hospital, and were generally satisfied with the care given them there. 50X1-HUM
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21. Mothers were obliged by public health regulation to have their children in a maternity hospital, under a physician's care. Ambulances were always available for this purpose.

PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES

22. No one was specifically charged with enforcing an industrial safety program at Institute 49. Fire prevention rules, however, were enforced. General health protection was presumably the task of the female physician at the "med-punkt." In general, no safety program existed at the institute, and the workers did not exercise their right of criticizing unsafe working practices. 50X1-HUM
23. [redacted]

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

24. [redacted] preserved blood was used for transfusions in the city hospitals. 50X1-HUM

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

-4-

50X1-HUM

25. [REDACTED]

PESTS

26. There were many flies and fleas in Leningrad. Trolley cars were infested with bugs which crawled onto the passengers from the seats. To combat these vermin the Soviets sold a form of DDT in the stores which bore a label with the word "dust", in Russian, on it.

27. [REDACTED] the surrounding country area had any poisonous reptiles except vipers. The vipers infested the area near Finland, and to the south. 50X1-HUM

28. There were very many rats and mice [REDACTED] they were attracted by the garbage lying in the disposal shafts. A city rodent disposal group visited the city residents to find out whether the homes were infested with rodents; however no poisons were dispensed and the group merely suggested that poisons be spread to combat the pests. 50X1-HUM

MISCELLANEOUS

29. The city had an unusually large number of cats, but few dogs. A city regulation prohibited taking dogs onto public conveyances.

30. [REDACTED] there were no poisonous plants in the area, nor any allergenic plants. 50X1-HUM

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